defaulting official. In this context, from 1.4.2000 to 30.6.2002, disciplinary proceedings were finalised against 8 officials for loss of files. Major penalty was imposed in 4 cases and minor penalty was imposed in remaining 4 cases. DDA has also started computerisation of records and file tracking system to check this problem.

Funding of projects in NER

*217. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to fund the projects declared under PM's Special package since 1996 for North-East only from 10 per cent budgetary allocation for North East;

(b) if so, the details of the decision; and

(c) if not, the funding pattern finalised indicating the additional allocations made and proposed to be made to complete the projects within the stipulated target date?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI ARUNSOURIE): (a) to (c) The then Prime Minister made a statement on October 27, 1996 at Guwahati regarding New Initiatives for North Eastern Region. The Statement envisaged, inter-alia earmarking *at least* 10% of the budget(s) of all Union Ministers/Departments for specific programmes in the North East. As a follow up, a Central Pool of Resources was constituted,which consists of the unspent amounts from 10% of the budget(s) of the Unioin Ministeries/Departments (except those specifically exempted). In January 2000, at Shillong, the Prime Minister announced a Agenda for Socio-economic Development of North Eastern States and Sikkim. The Agenda covers 28 items to be implemented on priority. The Details and progress of implementation in respect of items covered in the Agenda is available at the website: pmindia.nic.in. The financial requirements, as per latest estimates, for these items aggregate to Rs. 13,388.90 crores to be met from the plan/non plan budget of Union Ministries plan funds of North Eastern Council, financial institutions such as National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD), North Eastern Development Finance Corporaiton (NEDFI) as well as from the Non-lapsable central Pool of Resources.